

FO-205.06

MICHIGAN-WISCONSIN BOUNDARY WATERS

Under the authority of Part 491 of Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.49101 through 324.49103 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources on November 3, 2005, ordered that the following regulations shall apply on the Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters to provide uniform regulations for common waters shared with Wisconsin.

The following rules and regulations govern fishing in the waters which form a common boundary between the States of Michigan and Wisconsin. These rules and regulations supersede all others governing fishing on Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters that in any way conflict. Where regulations of Michigan and Wisconsin differ, persons shall comply with the regulations of the state in whose territorial waters they are fishing.

The interstate boundary waters in which fishing is to be governed by the special regulations are:

The Lake Michigan waters between the breakwalls at the mouth of the Menominee River beginning at an imaginary line drawn between the most lakeward point of each breakwall: Menominee County, Michigan; Marinette County, Wisconsin.

Menominee River, its Sloughs and Impoundments: Menominee, Dickinson, Iron Counties, Michigan; Florence, Marinette Counties, Wisconsin; Brule River, Iron County, Michigan; Florence and Forest Counties, Wisconsin; Brule Island Impoundment, upstream to a line running east-west through the first island upstream from the junction of the Brule and Paint Rivers, Iron County, Michigan; Florence County, Wisconsin; Smoky Lake, Iron County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin; Norwood Lake, Lac Vieux Desert, Crystal Lake, Mill Lake, Big Bateau Lake, Mamie Lake, West Bay Lake, Big Lake, Crampton Lake, Plum Lake, Tenderfoot Lake, Roach Lake, Little Presque Isle Lake, Cyrus Lake, Basin Lake, Stateline Lake, Gogebic County, Michigan; Vilas County, Wisconsin; East Fork Montreal River up to the mouth of Layman Creek, Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin; Montreal River, Gogebic County, Michigan; Iron County, Wisconsin.

Regulations: Except as otherwise expressly provided, no person shall take fish by any means other than with hook and line; nor at any time other than the open season; nor have in his or her possession any fish in excess of the daily creel or possession limit, or fish of less than the legal minimum size.

Species	Waters	Open Seasons	Creel & Poss. Limit	Minimum Size Limit
Trout & Salmon	Montreal & Menominee Rivers from their mouths to first dam upstream and Smoky Lake	No closed season	5	10"
	Menominee & Montreal Rivers above the first dam and Brule River from its mouth to the US Highway 2 Bridge	Last Saturday in April thru September 30	5	7"

	Brule River upstream from US Highway 2	Last Saturday in April thru September 30	5	Brook Trout-8" Brown Trout-12"
Species	Locality	Seasons	Creel & Poss. Limit	Minimum Size Limit
SM/LM Bass	All boundary waters except as otherwise provided in this paragraph	First Sat. in May-Friday before the third Saturday in June	0	---
		The third Saturday in June – November 30	5/comb.	14"
Walleye & Sauger	All boundary waters except as otherwise provided in this paragraph	1 st Saturday in May thru March 1	5/comb.	15"
	Rivers and Impoundments	March 2 - Friday before 1 st Saturday in May	1	15"
	Rivers and Impoundments	1 st Saturday in May thru March 1	5/comb.	15"
Northern Pike	All boundary Waters	1 st Saturday in May thru March 1	5	None
Bluegills, sunfish, crappies, and yellow perch	All boundary waters	No closed season	25/comb.	None
Muskellunge	All boundary waters (see Note 1)	May 15-November 30	1	40" (see Note 1)
Sturgeon (see Note 2)	All boundary waters (see Note 3)	1 st Saturday in September-September 30	1/season	60"
Channel Catfish	All boundary waters	No closed season	10	None
All others	All boundary waters	No closed season	None	None

Note 1 - For the Menominee River, from Hattie Street Dam downstream to the end of the breakwalls in Green Bay, the minimum size limit for Muskellunge is 50".

Note 2 - A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to any sturgeon fishing. All sturgeon harvested shall be immediately tagged with seals provided by the DNR and within 24 hours be validated at designated sites.

Note 3 - For the Menominee River, from Hattie Street Dam downstream to the end of the breakwalls in Green Bay, the daily possession limit for sturgeon is zero, catch and release only.

LEGAL FISHING METHODS:

1. Up to three lines with a total of three (3) hooks or baits may be used.
2. Lines must be attended at all times.
3. You may not fish for any fish by any means during the closed season on trout in the Brule River upstream from U.S. Highway 2 bridge in Section 9, T41N, R32W, Iron County, Michigan, and the Montreal River above the Superior Falls Flowage.
4. Dip nets not exceeding nine (9) feet square or in diameter without walls may be used in the Menominee River (except from Hattie Street Bridge in Marinette-Menominee to the first dam upstream and within 200 feet of all other dams) from April 1 to May 14 for taking of suckers, redhorse, carp, smelt and burbot.
5. Fish shanties used in ice fishing must be legibly marked with the name and address of owner.
6. You may fish from a motorboat with the motor running or a sailboat under sail except in Wisconsin boundary waters of Vilas County.
7. All residents of Michigan and Wisconsin holding a resident sport fishing license from their respective state, or residents of states other than Michigan and Wisconsin holding a sport fishing license issued by either Michigan or Wisconsin may fish in the boundary waters.
8. Crayfish may not be possessed or used for bait on Michigan-Wisconsin boundary waters.

This order is assigned number FO-205.06 and is titled "Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters".

This order supersedes the Order entitled "Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters," effective April 1, 2005, and assigned number FO-205.05.

This order shall take effect on April 1, 2006 and shall remain effective through March 31, 2011.